



The Fly-By

A Quarterly Newsletter of the
Southwest Region
April, 2013



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The Fly-By is published quarterly on the first month of each quarter. Deadline for submissions are:

1Q – 20 December

2Q – 20 March

3Q – 20 June

4Q – 20 September

Text may be submitted in the body of an e-mail (preferred) or as a document attached to an e-mail (a text file or, if generated in a word processor, saved in .RTF format).

Images must be in JPG format, un-retouched, un-cropped, and at least 1200 by 900 pixels.

Credits: In all cases, please give full grade, name and unit of assignment of

1. The article's author,
2. Photographer, and
3. Any person mentioned in the article.

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Send submissions to the Editor at:

awoodgate@austin.rr.com

Message size limit: 20 MB

News Highlights From Around the Region

In the first quarter of 2013, SWR continued to advise and support its member wings in the accomplishment of their mission. Texas Wing inaugurated its new headquarters in Nacogdoches. Wings conducted ES and support missions. Extensive training took place across the region.

To avoid errors or omissions, I've asked each wing PAO to send in a summary of notable events. They are posted below in the order in which they were received, with my thanks.

New Mexico Wing signed up 33 new members for its Legislative Squadron during a visit to the State Capitol that also saw a cadet color guard open the House of Representatives' proceedings. More than 60 percent of the House and Senate now are CAP Legislative members. Another color guard representing New Mexico won second place at the Southwest Region competition. Members practiced Emergency Services procedures during a SAREX in February at Los Alamos and one in March in Albuquerque.

Texas Wing finished off 2012 with Winter Encampment and LESA-South. In the new year, the wing conducted an Area Command Exercise, Distributed SAREX and mission aircrew schools. Texas Wing won the SWR Color Guard Competition. Cadets toured Dyess AFB in Abilene. 50 students took SLS/CLC courses in February, and Texas Rep. Michael McCaul introduced, HR755, CAP's Congressional Gold Medal Bill to Congress. The biggest news was that on March 16 Texas Wing opened their new wing headquarters in Nacogdoches.

Louisiana Wing conducted OPEXs at the local and wing-wide levels. It successfully completed several AFRCC calls to locate both ELT and EPIRB distress signals. A contingent of cadets received instruction from the Air Force Honor Guard that was visiting Keesler AFB. Several aircrews prepared for a Superbowl-oriented Falcon Virgo mission, providing intercept targets for the 122nd Fighter Wing. Aircrews distributed Intercept Procedure posters to state airports. Wing conducted the color guard competition. Three senior wing leaders participated in CAP's Legislative Day campaign.

Arizona Wing conducted progressive hands-on training of senior members and cadets in mission photography and mission scanner duties. Notably, one cadet completed all requirements to become a glider pilot. The wing conducted a

practice exercise preparing for Resolute Angel (the largest SAR exercise in the US), held a desert FTX for over 30 cadets, and supported the teacher AE program by attending a STEM Fair at a local high school. Senior member professional development courses were conducted during this period.

Arkansas Wing conducted emergency services training at all levels, responded to requests for assistance at the local and state level, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and participated in community service initiatives. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

Oklahoma Wing conducted emergency services training at all levels, responded to requests for assistance at the local and state level, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and participated in community service initiatives. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

To everyone, our congratulations. 🇺🇸

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Safety is Priority One

Please read the latest issue of The Safety Beacon for timely, seasonal advice at <http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/safety/>

Have you taken the **Operational Risk Management** Basic, Intermediate and Advanced online courses? Please visit: http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety_education/

- Safety must be on every CAP member's mind, at all times.
- Before engaging in any CAP activity, a safety briefing must be conducted.
- Don't miss the Safety Specialty Track training posted at <http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety-newsletters-2248/>
- ***Safety is our Number One Priority.***

How to Submit News Items for this Newsletter

▪ ***Which Articles Are Best?***

Ideally, articles should deal with a wing-wide event, preferably conducted in conjunction or coordinated with another wing (or better yet across regions).

Individual articles dealing with a subject that is of interest to a broad audience qualify as well.

Articles bylined by cadets, especially when the subject is of interest to a broad audience, are also welcome.

▪ ***Do I Submit Photos?***

Articles with no photos may not be selected for publication. Do not embed images in a Word document. Instead, send in the original, un-retouched, full-size digital photos as attachments.

▪ ***If You Have Article Ideas or Suggestions***

If you have an article in mind but are not sure whether it would be acceptable, you need some guidance in writing it, or you would like to comment on the material published here, please feel free to contact the editor: awoodgate@austin.rr.com. 🇺🇸



Top: Col. Brooks Cima cuts the ribbon inaugurating the new Texas Wing facility. Behind her stand (L-R) former Texas Wing Commander Col. Orlan D. Scott, Texas Wing Chief of Staff Maj. Jerry Green, Texas Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Jack Jackson, and Southwest Region Commander Col. Frank Buethe. (Photos: Lt. Col. Don R. Fisher, CAP)

Texas Wing Inaugurates New Wing Headquarters in East Texas

by Capt. Morgan Montalvo, CAP, Texas Wing

NACOGDOCHES, Texas – At 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 16, 2013, Texas Wing formally dedicated its new wing headquarters. The weekend ceremony officially established Texas Wing's command-level presence in East Texas.

Approximately 300 attendees, including CAP members from across the state, representatives from CAP's Southwest Region, former Texas Wing commanders and the public attended the event.

Following the Color Guard's raising of the flag, Texas Wing Commander Col. Brooks Cima – who was accompanied by members of her staff and local





dignitaries – cut the ribbon to declare the new Gen. D.H. Byrd Regional Training Center and Texas Wing Headquarters open for operations.

"The completion of the new headquarters building is the beginning of a new way of operating in Texas Wing," said Cima. "We have an operations center that rivals those of many small counties in Texas. We also have a facility where we can hold cadet activities and save significant money by doing it in our space. We're bringing in new business and new visitors to the city of Nacogdoches, and this is a win-win situation for all of us," she said.

In the early fall of 2012, Texas Wing acquired the former Texas Army National Guard armory adjacent to the A.L. Mangham Regional Airport in Nacogdoches. According to Cima, purchasing an existing structure with direct access to an airport saved Texas Wing "a substantial amount" of money, when compared to the cost of building a new facility in one of several other cities that had been under consideration for a new wing headquarters.



Above: View of members and guests.
Left: Gazebo displaying an etched-glass history of CAP.

Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, attendees proceeded to enter the new headquarters for a second presentation, during which



Cima recognized Texas Wing's Group II Commander Maj. Stephen Hudson, Texas Wing Chief of Staff Capt. Jerry Green, and Texas Wing's Director of Personnel Lt. Col. Dennis Cima for "significant contributions in time and talent to establish this facility."

"These individuals have literally had their hands in every step of the process," Cima said.

Cima then presented a Commander's Commendation Award to Cadet 2nd Lt. Chandler McDonald for his headquarters grounds beautification project, completed as part of his Eagle Scout requirements.

Southwest Region Commander Col. Frank Buethe congratulated Texas Wing for its efforts to transform the one-time state military building into a civilian regional emergency response and instructional center.

"You now have one of the most outstanding facilities in Southwest Region," Buethe said, and added, "I want you to use this to the maximum you can, and invite everyone in the region to use your facility."

Other Texas Wing personnel honored during the indoor portion of the program included retired Lt. Col. Ed Brown, former and longtime CAP-USAF State Director, and Sandy Ellis, senior wing administrator who made the move from Waco to Nacogdoches in order to continue her employment with the wing headquarters.

Dr. Marlene Kahla, marketing professor at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, also was honored for her work on behalf of Texas Wing. Kahla and 41 of her students are developing a marketing plan for Texas Wing. This is the first university-CAP partnership of its kind. 🇺🇸



Brig. Gen. Andrew E. Salas, USAF, New Mexico National Guard Adjutant General, addresses the Jan. 12 Staff Meeting and Commander's Call at New Mexico Wing Headquarters.

(Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel)

New Mexico National Guard Pledges to Support New Mexico Wing

*by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP,
New Mexico Wing*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On Jan. 12, 2013, the New Mexico National Guard pledged the support of the Guard to Civil Air Patrol members who were in attendance at the New Mexico Wing Staff Meeting and Commander's Call.

Brig. Gen. Andrew E. Salas, USAF, New Mexico National Guard Adjutant General, told squadron commanders and wing staff members at the wing's quarterly meeting that the New Mexico National Guard will pledge to its full support in assistance to New Mexico Wing.

"We recognize the time and the effort and the sacrifice that you make, and I'm here to say that we appreciate that sacrifice," Salas said.

Salas went on to praise the wing's servant-leadership spirit. "Americans are Americans. We still have that faith and belief in something bigger than ourselves," he said.

Taking advantage of the opportunity to reach out to the young people of New Mexico, Salas told CAP members present that the Guard wants to become involved in Civil Air Patrol's middle school initiative program.

He went on to praise New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mark E. Smith for his tenacity as an advocate for New Mexico Wing. "Col. Smith has been a good leader for you," Salas said. The general also promised more interaction and more coordination between the National Guard and Civil Air Patrol.

Accompanying Salas on his visit was Air Force Col. Steve Ver Helst, Assistant Adjutant General for Air, who spoke about the continuum of care between Civil Air Patrol and the National Guard, and praised the spirit of the wing's civilian volunteers, many of whom are not pilots. "You don't have to wear a flight suit to be a hero; you don't have to wear a uniform to be a patriot," Ver Helst said.

Rounding out the staff visit from the Guard was Lt. Col. Thomas Gonzales, U.S. Army, who spoke of the recruiting opportunities between the National Guard and Civil Air Patrol.

"By partnering with Civil Air Patrol, we have an opportunity to give back to the community," Gonzales said.

Before leaving, Salas answered questions from CAP members, many of whom were concerned about possible sequestration – budget cuts coming forward from Washington, DC, while Congress is still trying to pass a budget.

"Sequestration is likely around the corner, but we have no definite information at this time," said Salas. He also remained optimistic about the future of the Guard. "We're not talking about costs. We're talking about expanding our missions to contribute to the national defense," the general concluded. 🇺🇸





Top: Cadets practice signaling with a mirror.

Bottom: Cadets learn to use an L-Per to detect the signal emitted by an Emergency Locator Transmitter
(Photos this page: Lt. Col. Fred "Fritz" Seifritz, CAP)

Arizona Wing Conducts 25th Annual Desert FTX

by Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Klara Olcott, CAP, Arizona Wing

BUCKEYE, Ariz. – The Arizona Wing 25th Annual Desert Field Training Exercise (FTX) took place at White Tanks Park on Feb. 22-24, 2013, following planning and organizing that had started early in January and resulted in a successful FTX. To get going, on February 21, 2013, senior members and cadets packed the vans and loaded the gear for the following day.

Albertsons and other stores generously donated all food supplies, providing a wholesome diet for participants, well received by all.



In readying for the event, an advance party of senior members and cadets arrived on-site early on Friday morning, Feb. 22, 2013, setting up the boundaries for the camping areas as well as for the camp itself. When the cadets started arriving at 4 pm, they checked in and set up their tents. With some group teamwork, most tents were erected before nightfall, though some late arrivals had to set up theirs by flashlight.

After the weekend's first formation, cadets gathered for an Orientation and Safety Briefing presented by Maj. Scott Kozakiewicz. This was followed by a lesson on Venomous Creatures taught by Lt. Col. F.G. "Fritz" Seifritz. After a break and a light snack, it was time for lights out.

There were many interesting and exciting activities during the weekend. Among others, the following subjects were taught in flight rotation: Map & Compass, by Lt. Col. M. Hoza, Capt. W. Prokapow, and Cadet Chief Master Sgt. T. Nichols; Leadership and Drug Demand Reduction, by Capt. W. Fields and Cadet Maj. A. Grana (pm); Signaling and Field Equipment, by Maj. D. Gregor and Cadet 2nd Lt. D. Bautista; Fire Building and Water, by Maj. M. Fields, Cadet Maj. A. Grana (am), Cadet Chief Master Sgt. T. Nichols (am), Ms. A. O'Malley and Mr. T.J. Picarello (Desert Search Unit Posse). By the end of the FTX, all cadets were able to start a fire by themselves, were proficient in teamwork, could follow a compass heading, and could signal a plane.

On Sunday morning, three classes were held: Character Development, by S.M. D. Lopeman, Chaplain (Capt.) M. Macari, and Pastor P. Leyvas; Search Techniques, Tracking and Use of K-9's, by Lt. Col. F.G. Seifritz, and Ms. M. Falco and her dog; and Mark 9 Posse and Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) – Direction Finding (DF) by Maj. D. Gregor and Cadet 2nd Lt. D. Bautista.

The training prepared cadets for the Survival Olympics, leading to a prestigious award earned by one flight only – this being the highlight of the FTX for cadets. Emphasizing teamwork, efficiency, and precision, this competition measured the survival proficiency of not only individual cadets, but also each flight as a team.

The requirements had to be met within the time allowed, and this year's title winners were the Bravo Flight.

There were also individual awards: Honor Cadet of the FTX was Cadet Sr. Airman T. Garza; Honor Staff was Cadet Tech. Sgt. J. Bucher, and 2nd Lt. K. Moore received the Honor Senior Member award.

The time and dedication that senior members and cadets spent in organizing and conducting the FTX resulted in a smoothly run operation that all participants pronounced a resounding success – and fun. The cadets learned not only survival tactics but also teamwork – a necessary skill for life.

The FTX Activity Director was Maj. S. Kozakiewicz, who provided planning, management, direction and leadership. The wing thanked the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office and specifically the Desert Search Unit and Mark 9 Posse members, who gave generously of their time and talents. Thanked for their exceptional assistance were Lt. Col. 'Fritz' Seifritz, Maj. D. Gregor, Capt. M. Macari, S.M. D. Larkham, and Jim Lucas. The FTX Cadet Commander, Cadet 2nd Lt. S. Lacy, distinguished himself by leading the cadet staff, keeping smooth communications going, and aiding and monitoring operations from start to finish. 



Right: Cadets learn how to signal by using hand-held mirrors. (Photo: Cdt. Chief Master Sgt. Klara Olcott.)



Top: The squadron cadets with their brand-new Walkera Ladybirds, ready to master their operation.

Below: The star of the show, a Ladybird. (Photos: 2nd Lt. Drue Apple, CAP)

Texas Wing's Lakeshore Composite Squadron's "Dragonfly Air Force"

by 2nd Lt. Drue Apple, CAP, Texas Wing

ROCKWALL, Texas – Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013 was a historic night for Lakeshore Composite Squadron, Texas Wing, when the unit took delivery of their first aircraft to be used in training as well as in military-style formation flight demonstrations.

However, rather than the usual CAP Cessna 4-seater aircraft, these were a set of four small, durable and agile model aircraft: radio-controlled quadcopters. The bright-blue Walkera Ladybirds, no larger than a man's hand and weighing about an ounce, will be used for training as well as performance, as they'll be used to create the squadron's Flight Demonstration Team.

Squadron Cadet Commander Cdt. Maj. Graham André beams, "They look and sound like insects, and when you put four of them together you get a really angry sound coming out of them. So we call our flight demonstration team the *Dragonflies*. This also pays homage to the well-known USAF A-37 Dragonfly, which was a small, yet



nimble forward air control and counter-insurgency attack jet of the 1960s.”

Left: Cdt. Sr. Airman Brewer.
Below: Cdt. Airman First Class Atwood.

Aerospace Education Officer Maj. Pete Boronkay said, “These nifty little aircraft cost only about \$50 each, and yet yield thousands of dollars’ worth of experience for our cadets. They learn to fly the same way they would in civil or military aviation. They must pass oral and written tests as well as a check ride in order to become qualified

pilots. And in order to be able to fly in formation, they learn military formations the military way. Since the systems use *bind and fly* radios, it is possible to operate several aircraft on the same frequency with no cross-interference.”

A former U.S. Navy aviator and current Southwest Airlines pilot, Boronkay adds, “It is not unusual for weather, funding, or maintenance issues to delay or cancel our powered and/or glider flight activities. None of them will stop us from flying these aircraft, as they can be flown indoors or out. They are low-speed, low-energy vehicles, not prone to break or injure anyone – even with an unanticipated direct hit. ”

But the squadron will not tolerate sloppy flying, as Operational Risk Management (ORM) principles apply for senior members and cadets alike, and anyone is authorized to call a “safety” and ground the aircraft at any time until risks can be mitigated. Also, if an accident or incident actually does happen and damages an airframe, there is an accident review board composed of senior members and cadets to determine what happened, how it occurred, and how it can be prevented in the future. Flight simulators are used to augment practice as they are the cheapest, safest and best environment for learning from mistakes.

Squadron Commander Capt. Steve Jaynes said, “We don’t anticipate



problems, but we wouldn't hesitate to exercise our authority to admonish, restrict, or even ground a fledgling pilot if we needed to. The truth is that the risks are considerably lower than other activities such as rocketry, which is known to have an exceptionally low risk."

"The beauty of this program is that I can take on as a student a young cadet who is not yet old enough to attend a glider flight or powered flight academy. Younger cadets don't have to wait to learn the finer points of flying, and the skills can transfer to manned flight. We don't have to wait until the cadet steps into the cockpit to mold and grow a pilot with a professional attitude; we can start them from day one."

Jaynes added, "These aren't toys, and this isn't just about flight, but rather the emerging use of unmanned aircraft and remote technology to accomplish a number of missions in a safer, more efficient and cost-effective way. The trend and technology are clearly moving in that direction and it doesn't take the place of manned missions, but rather augments the latter. We're giving our cadets a kick-start for the kind of military or civilian career they might choose. I can't think of any other place in the world where teens would have available this kind of experience."

Even as small as the quadcopters are, they are still capable of carrying a small, high-definition video camera. They can be used in mock mini-missions to find an objective and capture it on video. Larger quadcopters could carry additional sensors and flight enhancers, such as transmitted video, infrared, near-field radar, autopilot, flight instruments, and GPS.

As the training program is being conducted, the squadron continues to monitor current and emerging regulations in order to ensure safe and legal use of the unmanned aircraft. For instance, the FAA requires that model aircraft be operated in line-of-sight, less than 400 feet above ground altitude, and at least three miles from any airport.

What is next for the Lakeshore flight demonstration team?

Besides opportunities to perform flight demonstrations for schools, civic organizations, and veterans groups, the squadron is making plans to host its very first invitational flight competition.

The squadron recognizes that they are pioneering something both effective and necessary, as it is potentially an effective recruiting and retention tool, capable of developing a lot of member interest.

Given the equipment's very small dimensions, operating a quadcopter is also challenging. During practice, one young cadet struggling to maintain a stable hover, exclaimed, "It is like trying to control an angry grasshopper on a leash."

Experience shows that the activity is challenging for both senior members and cadets, and those who have mastered the technique know how much effort it takes to reach that level. When asked, most cadets and senior members describe the program as both serious and fun. And this can translate as serious fun. 🍷

Right: Cdt. Sr. Master Sgt. Phillips.





Top: Wing Commander Col. Mark Smith affixes the Squadron of Merit streamer to the Squadron's guidon. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)

New Mexico Unit Named Squadron of Merit for Second Year in a Row

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – At the squadron meeting on March 7, 2013, Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron was named Squadron of Merit by Civil Air Patrol for the second year in a row. This is a distinction bestowed each year upon the top squadron in each wing. On hand to present the certificate and commemorative streamer was New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith, himself a founding member of the squadron.

“Spirit Squadron was named Squadron of the Year at last year’s Wing Conference, and it was my honor to submit the squadron’s name to National for Squadron of Merit,” Smith said.

Albuquerque Heights Composite Squadron was previously recognized as Squadron of Merit in 2012.

“Spirit Squadron has been Squadron of Merit for two years in a row, and I am proud to come out here and present this award,” Smith said. 🇺🇸



Top: Students transport an “injured” pilot after removing him from the fuselage of an aircraft.

Below right: Lt. Col. Sean Crandall assists Cadet Sr. Airman Kevin Couch as he tries to located an ELT signal using the L-Per. (Photos: Maj. Johanna Augustine, CAP)

Southwest Region Members Attend Texas Wing Ground Team School

by Maj. Johanna O. Augustine, CAP, Texas Wing

BROWNSVILLE, Texas – **Exercise Situation:** Over the last 72 hours, a late, slow moving tropical storm has hit south Texas causing massive flooding, power outages, and extensive damage from gale-force winds. Civil Air Patrol members are needed immediately to assist with finding and silencing Electronic Locator Transmitters (ELT). The staging area will be located at the Brownsville South Padre International Airport. When the call goes out for trained CAP members, will enough of them be prepared to do the work?

Thirty-two members from Arizona, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas Wings will answer “yes” after attending the Lonestar Emergency Services Academy (LESA) South – Texas Wing Ground Team School. This is an annual event conducted at the Southwest Regional Training Facility located on the grounds of the Brownsville South Padre International Airport. The complex, consisting of 6 buildings on 5 acres of land donated by the city of Brownsville, was home to students and staff during the week of December 26-31, 2013.



Project Director Lt. Col. Sean Crandall delivered the initial briefing, welcoming all to the home of Brownsville Composite Squadron. Afterwards, he distributed Ground & Urban Direction Finding Team Tasks books saying, "If you aren't training, you should be reading." This is in keeping with the school motto: "If you're awake, you're training!"

Next, Assistant Project Director Lt. Col. Juan Arredondo cautioned attendees on hazards found in the Rio Grande Valley, then students and staff were transported to the training site in CAP vans. Upon arrival, they received their building assignments for sleeping, and the staging area was set up in the administration building. Instruction started immediately on Ground Team Member 3 and Urban Direction Finding Team Familiarization and Preparatory training tasks.

Days and nights seemed to merge as training started at sunrise and ended well into the night. During the 140-hour course, students traversed a 1.5 mile land-navigation course and practiced extricating an "injured" pilot from a Piper Cub fuselage. Cadets and senior members alike were seen practicing line searches and hasty searches throughout the extensive training area that includes an additional 180 acres of secured land, adjacent to the training area's 5 acres.

To add a touch of realism to the training, students were transported to the Port of Brownsville to search for an aircraft that had engine failure and did an emergency landing near the port. Ground teams were dispatched to look for debris and silence the ELT.

Students also operated the different types of radio equipment in the CAP inventory – Intra-Squad Radios (ISR), EF Johnson (portable VHF), van-mounted mobile VHF radios, base-station VHF radio, and ALE high-frequency radio. "Using the ALE HF radios, the students could communicate with Texas Wing Winter Encampment, located on the northern end of the state in Mineral Wells, over 500 miles away," said Lt. Col. Arredondo, who is also the Brownsville Composite Squadron commander.

LESA South's future looks bright. Lt. Col. Crandall's goals are simple, but his dream of a future training facility is big. "We still have a great need to train CAP members on ground team skills. If we can train one or two members to have them go back to their home units certified, this helps build the GT programs across the state. This year, our school shows the overwhelming need to train more GT members. This year we have 32 students from 4 wings and 17 units from Southwest Region. Everyone attending this year's school is coming from a unit that has no active ground team at the home unit."

The Southwest Regional Training Facility has 6 buildings under renovation: an administration building, cadet building, senior member building, historical museum, supply building, and an operations center. The latter will house a 20-station computer lab, communications room, and a 25-person operations room. It will be used by the Brownsville Composite Squadron, LESA South, and the city of Brownsville.

With a student/instructor ratio of 3 to 1, students receive outstanding individual attention. Many students complete their qualifications in at least one of the following: Urban Direction Finding, Mission Staff Assistant, Mission Radio Operator, Ground Team Member 3, 2, and 1, and Ground Team Leader.

The results of the end-of-course student evaluation were revelatory. When asked what they thought about the course, all students agreed that: "*It was fun!*" 🇺🇸

Right: Texas Wing Ground Team School students learn how to perform a line search.





Arizona Wing Conducts Resolute Angel – Angel Thunder OPEX

by Lt. Col. Bob Ditch, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – On Saturday, Jan. 19, 2013, the Arizona Wing conducted a practice exercise for an upcoming major mission, Operation Resolute Angel – Angel Thunder Exercise. Over 155 personnel from sixteen Civil Air Patrol (CAP) squadrons operated from twelve locations.

The Operational Exercise (OPEX) responded to simulated earthquakes and tremors in Arizona and bordering states. During the OPEX, Arizona Wing also accomplished real-world aerial photography assignments for the state of Arizona, and located an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) signal reported at that time.

Multiple benefits of the OPEX for the citizens of Arizona and Civil Air Patrol's Arizona Wing include:

- Rehearsal of Arizona Wing Command and Control, mission generation/deployment, and photography/damage assessment in response to a major multi-location earthquake.
- Tests of the Wing's ability to account for 100% of its personnel throughout a mission
- Conducted photoreconnaissance of real-world homeland security infrastructure supporting the requirements of two towns and two County Emergency Management offices.
- Conducted road reconnaissance and photography sorties along six major highways in Arizona.
- Participated in helicopter and High Frequency Radio operations training.

To accomplish these objectives, the Wing established and operated an Area Command Post for its headquarters and four Incident Command Posts/Mission Bases located in Phoenix, Mesa, Prescott, and Tucson; flying twelve aircraft from eleven locations on 14 sorties. The sorties were flown across the state from Yuma to St. John's throughout Apache County and along the New Mexico border; to Kingman and Mohave Valley, to Tucson, to just south of Flagstaff and IH 40; including points in between.

During this OPEX, very few points around the state did not find the shadow of a CAP aircraft crossing over it. 🇺🇸



Top: Texas Wing's 2013 Legislative Day delegation included (L-R) Maj. Richard Pope, Lt. Col. Bob Beeley, Lt. Col. Donald Wheeler, 2nd Lt. Mark Holub, Cadet Maj. Cody McCallum, Lt. Col. Rhonda Anderson, Texas Wing Commander Col. Brooks Cima, Cadet Airman Tyler Leech, Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Jonah Griggs, Capt. Debbie Ford, Cadet Master Sgt. Albert Augustine, and Cadet Airman Basic Adrienne Leech, (Photo: Maj. Johanna O. Augustine)

Texas Wing Contingent Attends 2013 Legislative Session Opener

by Capt. Morgan Montalvo, CAP, Texas Wing

AUSTIN, Texas – On Jan. 8, 2013, Texas Wing conducted its Legislative Day trip to the State Capitol to meet and greet lawmakers as they convened for the 2013 Session.

Civil Air Patrol members from the Texas Wing staff and Three Rivers Composite Squadron (Carlsbad, Texas) traveled to Austin to congratulate their respective elected officials on opening day, and also to brief as many lawmakers as possible on CAP's duties when called upon to function as the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary.

Lt. Col. Bob Beeley, Texas Wing's Legislative Liaison Officer, summed up the effort in a single word, "Outstanding."

Beeley said that prior to the visit many Texas lawmakers had been unaware of CAP's decades-long record of public service at the national and state levels.

"Many of them had never heard of us," said Beeley. "We are working for them in fire watch, search and rescue, border patrol, homeland security, and disaster relief as we've done after Hurricane Ike."

Texas Wing Commander Col. Brooks Cima described the Austin trip as "overall, a great experience." "The people we got to speak with were very receptive to what we were talking about," she said.

Cima explained that, with contacts among lawmakers in Austin established, Texas Wing will propose the creation of a state-funded account to streamline CAP response at county and municipal levels. Texas Wing also will ask the Legislature to support Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Program educational initiatives that benefit CAP cadets.

Front-row seating in the Texas House Gallery gave the trio of Three Rivers Composite Squadron cadets an on-high view of the 83rd Texas Legislature swearing-in.

"I thought it was a good opportunity to meet your representative and see what it's like to be in office," said Cadet Maj. Cody McCallum, who briefed his state representative, Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, and other legislators on CAP's emergency service commitment to the community.

"For older cadets or anyone interested in politics, I definitely recommend it," McCallum said.

Beeley said that Texas Wing's next legislative activity would be a late-February trip to Washington, D.C., an annual event during which CAP personnel from wings nationwide meet with their respective Congressional delegations. 🇺🇸



Top: New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith (front row, center) poses with the Winter Warrior graduating class.
Below: Cadets receive hands-on training during the C-130 tour. (Photos: 2nd Lt. Bryan Neal)

New Mexico's Winter Warrior: Cadets Training Cadets

by 2nd Lt. Teresa M. LeGalley, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Winter Warrior was a three-day Civil Air Patrol activity held at New Mexico Wing Headquarters, Kirtland Air Force Base, during Dec. 28-30, 2012. Thirty-nine cadets and eight senior members from eight different squadrons participated. Senior cadets from several squadrons developed, coordinated and instructed the activity, stressing the three main missions of Civil Air Patrol: emergency services, aerospace education and the cadet program.





Above: Cadets work on a communications exercise at the Winter Warrior activity.

Cadet 1st Lt. Michael R. Eckert, the cadet activity commander, organized the activity with the help of the New Mexico Wing Cadet Advisory Council (CAC). Eckert, along with his staff, developed the activity plan and training syllabus to provide unique and worthwhile learning opportunities to cadets.

The cadet staff, drawing on their experience as cadets, developed a syllabus that focused on practical hands-on training, with limited academic classroom time.

“The cadets could expect two things from the activity: winter (cold temperatures), and warrior (physically and mentally demanding challenges),” said Cadet 2nd Lt. Jaclin D. Sidden, the activity deputy cadet commander. Such challenges included shelter-building, relay races and litter carries.

However, not all activities were physical, as several of them incorporated problem-solving as well.

As part of the cadets’ training, the 58th Special Operations Wing at Kirtland provided a walk-through tour of their aircraft, a favorite among cadets. The cadets were briefed on each aircraft and were allowed to sit in the cockpit and have “hands-on” experience with the controls.

Although Winter Warrior was run by cadets, senior members were involved in guiding the cadet staff. A minimum of two senior members supervised every activity to ensure the safety and well-being of all cadets. All senior staff agreed, the cadets handled everything quite capably and enthusiastically.

When asked which had been his proudest moment, Cadet Eckert replied, “At graduation, when I realized we had achieved our goal.”

New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mark E. Smith echoed the same sentiment at the graduation ceremony. “Winter Warrior accomplished its goals, and strengthened the esprit-de-corps within the New Mexico Wing,” he said. 🇺🇸



Top: FTX attendees from Longview, Tyler, Mount Pleasant and Dallas Composite Squadrons
Below: Cadets prepare to raise the radio antenna. (Photos: Capt. Harold Parks, CAP)

Texas Wing Squadron Holds Field Training Exercise

by Capt. Harold Parks, CAP, Texas Wing

LONGVIEW, Texas – On the weekend of Feb. 8-10, 2013, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) members from Longview, Tyler, Mount Pleasant and Dallas Composite Squadrons gathered in Gladewater for a Field Training Exercise (FTX) hosted by the Gladewater Corsairs Composite Squadron.

Cadets and senior members trained in various emergency services subjects while working in remote areas. Member learned to be self-sufficient for three days, functioning on what they could carry in their backpacks. The training emphasized locating missing aircraft presumed to have crashed.

Classes included First Aid, field hygiene, personal safety, various techniques for locating clues leading to the discovery of aircraft or missing persons, actions upon locating these targets, actions if becoming lost, communications (both radio



and whistle signals) and electronic search for Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs) that are mandated by law in all aircraft registered in the United States. An inertia switch (similar to what automobiles use to trigger air bags) is activated when an aircraft comes to a sudden stop or suffers a very hard landing. Once an ELT is activated, Civil Air Patrol is alerted and air and ground teams can home in on the radio signal that the ELT transmits.

An L-Per is used to home in on an ELT signal. Much time is spent during squadron meetings as well as on FTXs learning how to use the L-Per.

Right: A First Aid Class in progress.

Below: Bruce mock-attacks Cdt. Grimes.

The FTX started on Friday evening as members checked in at the Gladewater Municipal Airport. After a safety briefing, participants loaded up equipment and headed out to the training area to set up camp. Attendees are responsible for providing their own meals and tents. Once camp is established, everyone has an opportunity to gather around the campfire, eat, greet old friends and/or make new ones. Since CAP trains to national standards, CAP members can work effectively with other personnel from anywhere in the U.S. This is a valuable asset when working rescue missions in any American location.

After preparing and eating their own breakfast, participants started training. Personnel were sorted into two groups (Alpha and Bravo) according to their previous experience and the Emergency Services specialty in which they wished to receive certification. Alpha members were new to Ground Team work so they started classes covering basic field work information. Bravo members had already accomplished the basic requirements, and also included personnel working on more advanced topics, so this group started almost immediately on field work, practicing some of the techniques they had learned previously. A small team from Bravo was organized to erect the radio antenna while Alpha began attending classes. Each group had different schedules for classes and field work throughout the weekend, though Radio Operation and First Aid classes were taught to both groups gathered as one.



In mid-afternoon, all were recalled to Mission Base as several Hallsville Police cars arrived. Attendees saw Sergeant Brian Best and his dog Bruce come out of the car, accompanied by dog trainers Norm and Karen Garner, and Animal Control Officer Victoria Aldrete. Bruce is a highly trained Belgian Malinois that, as Mr. Garner explained, is a breed specifically chosen for tracking and drug detection. Although the dog seemed gentle and members were allowed to pet it, it could also be very aggressive if ordered to attack.



Above: A Ground Team leaves on a ELT search sortie during the FTX.

After demonstrating Bruce's tracking ability, volunteers experienced Bruce's fierce side. Each volunteer, wearing an armored full arm-length glove, was given a safety briefing on how to act when the dog attacks. When Bruce saw the glove come out, he became very excited. After several cadets had experienced Bruce's enthusiastic attacks, Sgt. Best demonstrated another important skill of a well-trained attack dog.

After giving Bruce the attack signal, with the dog at full speed towards Lt. Col. Davis (one of the volunteers), Sgt. Best shouted a command and Bruce immediately veered off to the right, about four feet from his initial target, and without touching Davis returned to his handler. Normal training resumed after Bruce and his handlers had left. This experience was a hot topic during the evening meal.

Following the K9 demonstrations, both groups were assigned field tasks. On Bravo's sortie, an injury was simulated on one of the student Ground Team members to see how the student Ground Team Leader and team members would handle the situation. The scenario simulated that the L-Per operator had suffered an ankle injury. The students handled the simulated injury well, assessing the injury and reporting to Mission Base that the Team was aborting the assigned sortie to return to Base (as their trainers at Mission Base had expected them to do).

Had the injury been real, the exercise director would have provided transportation to the team's location or at least as close as possible to it. On this exercise, the team was told that transport was not available so they had to work together to get the "injured team member" back to Base, which they did successfully.

The final sortie of the day took place at nightfall. Both groups were merged for a simulated ELT search. At the time they left, trainees did not know that staff had placed an aircraft fuselage in the training area, with two simulated crash victims in it, a development that usually surprises new trainees who, upon locating the target, would find two "injured" survivors with which they would have to deal.

The Ground Team Leader trainee quickly assessed the challenges and issued appropriate directions to the trainee team. The GTL decided that the "survivors" could be moved out of the fuselage while taking care not to cause further injury. This was accomplished well and, after preparing the survivors to return to Mission Base, they requested transportation for them. However, the ELT was still transmitting the distress signal.

Mission Base advised that, since the survivors were stable, the Team was to silence the ELT transmitter first. This directive resulted in another electronic search, because the ELT was not in the fuselage. It was soon located a short distance away, silenced, and the team directed to return

to Base. This was the most advanced field problem the trainees had to handle, and they performed well. The evening meal was a relief.

When on an FTX, the squadron usually features a pizza Saturday night at a modest personal cost, followed by a movie, free time or bed – depending on available time (this time, it was lights out after the movie).

After trainees had gone to bed, since an intense rain storm was approaching, staff took down the radio antenna and packed up all electronic devices and files before turning in for the night.

After breakfast, participants broke camp, though this morning it was challenging, as the rain storm had soaked everything. One cadet woke up to a few inches of water on the bottom of her tent as inadvertently she had chosen low-lying terrain to set it up.

After striking camp, all cleaned up the area to leave it cleaner than found, then proceeded back to the airport where several important activities would await them. Now that they had covered the basic classes and demonstrated at least some familiarity with the material, staff moved all students to more advanced classes followed by two additional sorties.

The trainees were to be exposed to the difficulties of locating an ELT at an airport. Since most airport hangars are of steel construction, the ELT signal is reflected all around upon striking the walls, making it very difficult to home in on the signal in the presence of many false signals. The trainees had to select the correct signal from the background noise produced by reflections. Once L-Per operators locate an ELT on an airport, they have begun to master the equipment, a skill perfected through many training sessions, allowing them to find a target quicker. During the weekend training, all members learned how to use the L-Per and tracked ELT signals using it.

After the final two sorties, all trainees returned to the terminal building. Staff had been in radio contact with Air 1 (the East Texas Medical Center helicopter), which would be landing at the Airport shortly. The trainees observed how the helicopter approached the landing pad. Once the helicopter had landed and the rotors stopped turning, the trainees were invited to approach for a briefing on the aircraft and its capabilities. The Flight EMT briefed them on the team's medical capabilities and demonstrated how patients are loaded for transport. Many cadet trainees volunteered to be loaded into the aircraft.

A very important part of the briefing covered how CAP members could work with the aircrew during missions. CAP members were shown the emergency shutdown procedures, should Air 1 crash and the engines be still running. The briefing also included what CAP members would do in order to prepare and then direct the EMT helicopter into a remote landing zone in order to pick up patients. The crew then answered questions from the trainees and staff.

The weekend's final activity was the debriefing. As always, the first topic was safety, then the entire weekend was reviewed to determine whether there had been any unexpected safety issues and judged whether the chosen actions had been appropriate. Next came the training received. This is always a "no holds barred" honest appraisal from everyone who attended.

Information gathered during this session is always useful to staff, who can learn whether anything had been overlooked or could be improved upon. It turned out that the schedule had been overoptimistic, not allowing for enough time; a close second was that some trainees had come without being fully prepared. Staff noted improvements to be applied for the following FTX. The trainees proved to be open-minded and had the right attitude, as they had brought with them curiosity and eagerness to learn, thus making their training more productive. In spite of Sunday morning's early rain storm, much got accomplished and some of the trainees are now much

closer to being certified as
Ground Team Members. 🇺🇸



Left: Participants at the helicopter briefing.



Top: The Very Large Array antenna is located on the plains of the New Mexico desert, just south of Socorro. This is a collection of 28 radiotelescopes. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel)

New Mexico Wing Members Meet the Very Large Array

by 2nd Lt. Mary A. Fox, CAP, New Mexico Wing

MAGDALENA, N.M. – On Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013, eighteen cadets and eight senior members of the Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron boarded a chartered bus for an exciting journey to the VLA (Very Large Array) antenna, just south of Magdalena, N.M. This equipment is operated by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Socorro.

On the way to the observatory, the squadron’s cadet executive officer, Cadet Capt. Michael R. Eckert, led the cadets in a “lost on the moon” activity. The scenario was that they had just crash-landed their vehicle on the dark side of the moon, and had to hike 200 miles to the mother ship on the moon’s near side. The cadets were given a list of supplies, and tasked with ranking them in

order, starting from the most important first. Upon completion, they compared their answers with those compiled by educators at NASA, who designed the activity and prioritized the list.

Nearing the Socorro area, the group was given a scavenger hunt, a tool supplied by the NRAO to guide and inform the cadets of the various landmarks they would see during the last hour of travel. Upon arriving at the VLA site, Ms. Judy Stanley, NRAO Educational Staff employee, joined the group and guided the squadron members through a one-and-a-half hour tour of the VLA.

The array itself consists of 28 radio antennae – 27 online with one in the shop for maintenance at any one time. Each antenna is 83 feet tall and 25 feet in diameter. While the largest antenna possible can scan an area one-half mile in diameter, all 27, in different patterns, can stretch far past this half-mile limitation. Stanley pointed out that the entire array can remain functional with as many as three antennae in storage or offline.

If the winds are too strong, the antenna is programmed to shut down, turning straight up into the “birdbath” position: this places the equipment at rest until the wind returns to within allowable operational range. Stanley led the group through the operator’s building, the storage facilities building, and the base of one of the antennae.

On the return trip, the squadron’s deputy commander for cadets, Capt. Nicki Voights, led a hands-on activity reinforcing flight chart reading skills. Using an aeronautical chart of the local area, Voights showed cadets how pilots use landmarks to stay on course.

After nine hours on the road, the cadets were tired but excited after all they learned about one of their very own scientific landmarks – the Very Large Array. 🇺🇸

Below: Cadets and senior members of Albuquerque Heights Composite Squadron in front of the Very Large Array. (Photo: Capt. Michael E. Eckert, CAP)





Top: Lt. Col. Larry Webster leads the discussion. Sitting at the table (L-R) Cadet Tech. Sgt. Dakota Gray, Capt. Richard James, Capt. Peter Dumais, and Lt. Col. Lyle Melton. (Photo: Maj. Michael Maynard)

Arkansas Wing Graduates Seventeen from Unit Commander's Course


by Maj. Michael S. Maynard, CAP, Arkansas Wing

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – On Jan. 26, 2013, seventeen Arkansas Wing members graduated from the 2013 Unit Commander's Course (UCC), including a cadet. Lt. Col. Larry Webster, Arkansas Wing Professional Development Officer conducted the course.

The curriculum provides expert advice and guidance on leadership, management and ethics in a standardized format for the training of current and potential Civil Air Patrol squadron and group commanders, who will be responsible for providing local leadership, administering programs, and managing the volunteer members in the field as they perform critical Civil Air Patrol missions as well as provide support to the United States Air Force as the official Air Force Auxiliary.

The UCC discusses the traits and skills new unit and group commanders will need to develop in order to effectively lead and manage their units. Topics include command responsibility and accountability, recruiting and retention, safety, working with families, management, leadership, communication, and elements of successful units and leaders.

The course is presented in a core/elective format. All courses include a standardized core of 8 lessons (10 hours), as well as 6 additional lessons (6 hours) selected from a list of electives. This allows wings to tailor the instruction to meet the unique needs of actual or potential commanders. The course lasts 16 classroom hours and is administered at the group or wing level. Local colleges and universities may, at their own determination, offer undergraduate college credit on Organization Leadership/Management based on coursework relevancy and the credit hours or Continuing Education Units offered through the course.

Graduating members were: [Wing headquarters] Maj Michael Maynard; [Hot Springs (40th) Comp. Sqn.] Capt. Peter Dumais, 1st Lt. Danny Marsh and Cadet Tech. Sgt. Dakota Gray; [Little Rock (42nd) Comp. Sqn.] Lt. Col. Lyle Melton, Maj. Larry Ranney, Maj. Miguel Rivera, Capt. Richard James, 1st Lt. Judi Siegfried, 2nd Lt. George Chambers and Sr. Member Kelly Moore; [Monticello (67th) Comp. Sqn.] Maj. Jeffrey Longing; [Rogers (115th) Comp. Sqn.] Lt. Col. Chris McLellan, Capt. Charles Rine, Capt. Kristi Eliassen, 2nd Lt. Deborah Bellante and Sr. Member James Howard. 



(L-R) **Front Row:** Cdt. Airman 1st Class Connor McCallum, Cdt. Airman Basic Noah Brumley, and Capt. David Augustine. **Back Row:** Capt. Roblin, Cdt. Master Sgt. A.J. Augustine, Cdt. Maj. Cody McCallum, Cdt. Airman Ryan Schlake, and Mr. Jeremy Schlake. **Not in picture:** Maj. Johanna Augustine, Cdt Sr. Master Sgt. Jonah Griggs and Mrs. Pattie Pena-Stroud
(Photo: Maj. Johanna Augustine)

Texas Wing Squadron Cleans Up Highway

by Maj. Johanna Augustine, CAP, Texas Wing

THREE RIVERS, Texas – On April 6, 2013 – for the third year in a row – Three Rivers Composite Squadron participated in the annual "Don't Mess With Texas" clean up.

Squadron senior members, cadets, and family members met at the 2-mile stretch of highway on Farm-to-Market 2288 on the north side of O.C. Fisher State Park. First thing on the agenda was a safety briefing about possible hazards that they could experience while picking up trash, such as local wildlife and insects to include rattlesnakes, mice, lizards, fire ants, and spiders are common. Also, vehicles passing at a high rate of speed can be dangerous.

After safety vests and trash bags were distributed, the volunteers split into two groups -- one for each side of the highway. As the temperature started to rise to 80F and beyond, the pace slowed down, but everyone was determined to get the job done.

After 3-1/2 hours of bending and standing, numerous encounters with dead deer, and finding things that should not be out on the side of the road, volunteers collected over 30 bags of trash.

To the unit's encouragement, many local residents have complimented the squadron for its valuable volunteer work, most often citing: "your taking the time to clean the highway and doing such a great job." 🇺🇸



Top: The Squadron 302 Color Guard posts the colors. They are: Cdt. Staff Sgt. Cameron Roach, Cdt. Tech. Sgt. Jordan Hornback, Cdt. Chief Master Sgt. Courtney Deinzer and Cdt. Sr. Airman Jacob Little.

Below: Squadrons 302 and 308 cadets and senior members participating in the event. (All photos: Carol Groff of "Moments Photography" by permission)

Aviation Day Celebration at the Arizona State Capitol

by Cadet Sr. Master Sgt. Klara Olcott, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – On Jan. 15, 2013, several cadets and senior members from Arizona Wing's Squadrons 302 and 308 attended the Aviation Day celebration at the Arizona State Capitol. This event brought together state legislators, pilots – fixed-wing, helicopter and balloon, as well as aviation enthusiasts and military personnel – to honor the significance of aerospace and aviation. Both have advanced



understanding of the world and promoted its innovative use to improve the environment in many ways, proving that aerospace and aviation are vital to modern civilization and an integral part of America's future.

Many businesses had set up tables all around the tent, despite the cold weather, with representatives present. They were all ready and eager



to share their knowledge of aviation and explain their role in its development.

Heat lamps were placed on the lawn, with many visitors around them, as it was a chilly day as one walked on cold, wet grass and explored the booths. Many pamphlets and handouts were spread out on the tables, such as flashlights, pens, stress-relieving friendly airplanes, and lanyards. The CAP cadets took a close look at the programs and information offered at each booth.

Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 posted the Colors for the event. Glendale Composite Squadron 308 supplied and staffed a CAP Aerospace Education/ Recruiting booth, exhibiting educational materials distributed to teachers, a stack of paper airplane kits, maps showing Civil Air Patrol Squadron locations in Arizona, as well as Cadet Program information. Attendees commented positively on the discipline and volunteer service demonstrated by the Cadets.

Food was catered to all the attendees. A raffle-drawing closed the event. While no CAP member won a prize, it was exciting to be part of the anticipation.

Aviation Day is an entertaining and informative annual remembrance. 🇺🇸



Top: Ascension Color Guard reports for outdoor practical: (L-R) Cdt. Master Sgt. Luis Camacho, Cdt. Sr. Master Sgt. Joshua Townsend, Cdt. Chief Master Sgt. Ian Woldt (Capital City Comp. Sq.), Cdt. Sr. Master Sgt. Clyde Hodge, III. (Photo: Capt. Lydia C. Pike)

Louisiana Wing CAP Cadets Bound for Little Rock

by Capt. Lydia C. Pike, CAP, Louisiana Wing

GONZALES, La. – On Feb 16-17, 2013, the Civil Air Patrol's Louisiana Wing held its annual Cadet Competition in Lafayette, La. Three teams competed for the privilege to represent Louisiana Wing at the Regional competition in March.

The competing teams, Barksdale, Pontchartrain and a team from Ascension and Capital City Composite Squadrons, competed in seven events: Written Exam, Quiz Bowl, Mile Run, Indoor Practical, Outdoor Practical, Inspection and Standard Drill. All events are indicators of the teams' knowledge of CAP, Physical Fitness, Military Bearing and ability to properly handle our Nation's Colors.

The competition events were conducted at the Louisiana National Guard Armory and at South Louisiana Community College Campus (SLCC) in Lafayette. Judges for the event were, Sgt. Cedric Grimes, LNG 256th IBCT; Sgt. Daniel E Caillouet, LNG 1023rd Engineer Btn and Master Sgt. Rogee Clark, USAF Reserves.

Louisiana Wing Director of Cadet Programs Lt. Col. Shelly Thibodaux, CAP, who was on hand for the weekend, said, "The cadets that participated in the color guard competition this past weekend did an outstanding job. The teams looked sharp and the staff kept everything working. Even the spectators pitched in to make this competition a success." She added, "Congratulations to all who received awards and good luck to Ascension Composite Squadron as they move forward to Regional Competition."

Louisiana Wing Chief of Staff Lt. Col. Amos Plante said, "The teams clearly worked very hard to prepare for the competition. All the cadets and senior members who either participated directly in the competition or worked as staff are to be commended for a very successful event." 🇺🇸



Top: Squadron personnel Attending (L-R) Cadet 2nd Lt. Matt Brown, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Jordan Trewitt, Cadet Airman 1st Class Gavin Downing, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Seth Grimes, Cadet Senior Airman Austin Page, Lt. Col. Colonel Gerry Davis, Cadet Airman Marcos Jimenez and Cadet Airman Basic Billy Phelps (Photos: Capt. Harold Parks)

Texas Wing Squadron Takes Part in Medal of Honor Ceremony

by Capt. Harold Parks, CAP, Texas Wing

GLADEWATER, Texas – On Saturday, March 23, 2013, the Gladewater Corsairs Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, attended the Medal of Honor Ceremony held at the Gladewater Memorial Cemetery. The City of Gladewater and the Korean War Veterans of America (KWVA) sponsor this ceremony each year.

The Ceremony specifically honors Master Sergeant Travis E. Watkins who was killed in action during the Korean War. Sgt. Watkins gave his life to save the lives of his men when, while behind enemy lines, they were heavily engaged by a superior enemy force. He was seriously wounded and, realizing that he would unnecessarily hinder his men's opportunity to escape, he ordered them to leave him behind. Although he was killed by the enemy, his men successfully made their way back to allied lines.

Honored guests attending who spoke during the Ceremony included Lieutenant Colonel Kang Moon Ho, Defense Attaché in the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, and His Honor the Mayor of Gladewater, Mr. Harold Wells. The mayor read a proclamation recognizing Medal of Honor Day.



Colonel Kang Moon Ho delivered a stirring, heartwarming speech expressing the gratitude of the Korean people to the Government to the United States and America's servicemen and women.

A bagpiper played while Colonel Ho placed a wreath on Master Sergeant Watkins' grave and a reading describing the symbolism and

purpose of a Prisoner of War/Missing In Action/Killed In Action (POW/MIA/KIA) table was offered by Lt. Col. Leo Glover, US Army Retired. There was a ceremonial rifle salute, taps were played, and a missing man flyover closed the ceremony.

After leaving the cemetery, squadron members shared lunch together, engaging in a lot of discussion about the event. The cadets began asking questions about the freedoms which American citizens enjoy. As several senior members present were veterans, they could relate experiences from having served overseas. There were several "aha!" moments as various stories were told that contrasted with the freedoms Americans now enjoy. By their own admission, the day's experience taught the cadets how valuable American freedoms are, especially in the light of Col. Ho's speech and the real life experiences narrated by the senior members.

Gladewater Composite Squadron members attending included: Lt. Col. Gerry Davis, Capt. Harold Parks, Cadet 2nd Lt. Matt Brown, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Jordan Trewitt, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Seth Grimes, Cadet Senior Airman Austin Page, Cadet Airman 1st Class Gavin Downing, Cadet Airman Marcos Jimenez and Cadet Airman Basic Billy Phelps. 🇺🇸

Above: POW/MIA/KIA table.
Right: Missing man flyover.





Arizona Wing Member Honored by National Defense Organization

by Capt. Cindy Beck, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – Col. (Dr.) Bob Ditch, USAF Retired, EdD, and Director of Emergency Services for Civil Air Patrol's Arizona Wing was recently recognized by the staff of the National Defense University's Joint Forces Staff College for teaching in four of the programs offered by the University.

He has been lecturing at the school on numerous subjects relative to Homeland Security, Defense Support to Civil Authorities, and the National Incident Management System/Incident Command. These have included the General and Flag Officer's Capstone Course, the Homeland Security Planner's Course, the Joint Advanced Warfighting School, and the Joint/Combined Warfighting School.

Col. Ditch has served as an adjunct professor for nine and a half years; traveling to the school in Norfolk, Virginia about six times a year as well as to other locations around the U.S. as a part of the school's Mobile Training Team. This has included the National Defense University in Washington D.C., Headquarters–U.S. Army North in San Antonio, and Headquarters–U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs, Colo. 🇺🇸



Top: Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas R. Martin of Albuquerque Heights Composite Squadron (left) and Cadet Tech. Sgt. Josias Valdez of Tony Hillerman Middle School Squadron practice flag-folding techniques under the supervision of Lt. Col. Bob Ross. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel)

New Mexico Wing Conducts Color Guard Workshop

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – At Kirtland Air Force Base on Feb. 2, 2013, Maj. Kathy Courreges, commander of High Desert Composite Squadron and New Mexico Wing's recruiting and retention officer, and Lt. Col. Bob Ross, a member of Thunderbird Composite Squadron, put on a Color Guard workshop for cadets interested in learning more about how the Color Guard works. The activity, originally planned for 30 cadets, almost tripled to 80 attendees when word of the workshop spread throughout the wing.

Ross, who has won 12 out of the past 19 competitions he has coached, impressed upon the cadets the importance of honoring the colors, and that one can never honor the flag too much.

Ross covered basic flag etiquette: how the flag should be displayed and how to properly honor the flag. Also covered were some of the things one should never do with the flag, such as using it as any kind of drapery or covering. After lunch on base at the Thunderbird Inn, cadets practiced basic flag-folding techniques.

The activity was dismissed at 3:00 p.m. 🇺🇸



Left: Maj. Stephen Hudson accepts the unit guidon from Capt. Carolyn Morton, as she relinquishes command.
Below: Hudson hands the unit guidon to Capt. Carl Stutsman, who accepts command.
(Photos: Joel Koehler, Multimedia/Video Producer, LeTourneau University, used by permission)

Gregg County Composite Squadron's Change of Command Ceremony

by Capt. Karl Falken, CAP, Texas Wing

LONGVIEW, Texas – On Feb. 11, 2013, the Gregg County Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol held a change of command ceremony. The outgoing squadron commander, Capt. Carolyn Morton, turned over command to Capt. Carl Stutsman. Texas Wing's Group II Commander Maj. Stephen Hudson presided over the ceremony. The Group II Deputy Commander, Maj. Fletcher Sharp assisted, and Cadet 2d Lt. Rebecca Morton was the standard bearer.

Stutsman has been a member of the Civil Air Patrol since 1992, when he joined as a senior member. He transferred to the Gregg County Squadron from the South Charlotte Cadet Squadron in Waxhaw, North Carolina; this is his first command position. Stutsman is employed by LeTourneau University as the Director of Maintenance for Flight Operations at the Abbott Aviation Center located on the East Texas Regional Airport, where the ceremony was held.

Morton and her husband, 2nd Lt. Ronald Morton, M.D., are longtime Gregg County Squadron members and the parents of five current CAP cadets and one former cadet. This was her first squadron command. In addition to her volunteer service through CAP, she serves as the Community Emergency Response Team Coordinator for Gregg County and has volunteered with VFW Post 4002.

Hudson remarked that his introduction to the Gregg County squadron came when he





participated in a 2011 unit inspection and was impressed by the unit's performance and record of growth. He then thanked Captain Morton for her service, saying, "The Gregg County squadron did well under her and Carolyn has set a high mark for leadership that will be a challenge to follow. The squadron is in good hands and I believe Captain Stutsman is up to that challenge."

Speaking to the squadron members in attendance, he concluded, "You have a good base to build on. Accept the challenge and go forward."

Hudson also thanked LeTourneau University for allowing the squadron to hold its weekly meetings at the school's aviation center.

Stutsman said he would provide leadership that supports Civil Air Patrol's three missions: aerospace education, cadet programs and emergency services.

"I think Carl will do a great job because he will balance the program with proper focus," said Morton in a post-ceremony interview, "I hope his affiliation with LeTourneau will aid in bringing a greater emphasis in aerospace education to the program."

Among the guests on hand for the occasion were Professor Fred Ritchie, Jr., Dean of LeTourneau's School of Aeronautical Science, Maj. Robert "Skip" Smith, commander of the Tyler Composite Squadron, and his deputy commander, Maj. Bruce Folks. Also present were Mrs. Ann Hudson, Mrs. Linda Sharp and Mrs. Pamela Stutsman, married to Hudson, Sharp and Stutsman, respectively,

Following the ceremony, attendees were served refreshments provided by Senior Member Stacie Smith. Afterwards, Maj. Stephen Kintner, Gregg County Composite Squadron member and LeTourneau air traffic control instructor, conducted a guest tour of the facility. 🇺🇸

Above: (L-R) Ann Hudson, Pamela Stutsman, Maj. Hudson, Linda Sharp and Capt. Stutsman.
Right: Touring the facility (L-R) Steve Kintner, Maj. Hudson, and Maj. Sharp.



How the Southwest Region Public Affairs Awards Program Works

Starting with the Jan., 2013 issue of The Fly-By, by directive of Southwest Region Commander Col. Frank A. Bueth, the region will recognize contributions to The Fly-By as follows:

1. A SWR **CAP Achievement Award** for article publication on three different issues of The Fly-By. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.
2. A SWR **Commander's Commendation Award** for article publication on an additional six different issues. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.

Region will issue the certificate and send it to the winner's unit at the first available opportunity. The award certificate will be presented at the first available opportunity.

How to Make Submissions Suitable for Publication

Since The Fly-By is posted on the SWR website, it is an external communication. Therefore, as required by CAPR 190-1, Sec. 7.b.(7), articles must be written in Associated Press Style. If a submission that is not in AP Style is selected for publication, it will be edited to this standard. (NHQ/PA has been using AP Style for all external communications since 2005.)

AP Style is defined in the Associated Press Stylebook (available at www.ap.org). For a brief summary, please see "Associated Press Style in a Nutshell," overleaf.

"Article" is defined as a narrative that:

- Is written in AP Style;
- Answers the questions Who, What, When, Where, and Why, and preferably also How;
- Has one or more quotes from participants, with attribution;
- Has two or more digital photos attached (not embedded in the text), with appropriate cutlines (photo captions). An article submitted without digital photos that is selected for publication will count as a half-credit. For full credit, it must have accompanying photos.

General advice on writing a good article

- Get all the facts right, stick to the facts, and do not use hearsay or express opinion.
- Take good digital photos.
 - Do not use digital zoom, or else your photos will lack good focus and definition;
 - Take "action shots" of people doing something interesting that is material to the article;
 - Make sure everyone is in the correct uniform.
 - **Note:** Good photos are essential to add immediacy and flavor to the story.
- Get good quotes.
 - Ask participants for their opinion;
 - Get full grade, name, position title and unit of assignment for each quote.
 - Get the individual's consent to publish the quote as recorded (read it back).
 - **Note:** Getting quotes is how you get to express opinion, and get your readers to share the experience that you are writing about.
- Write in good, idiomatic, unadorned English.
 - Do not "pad" your sentences, such as saying "because of the fact that" when "because" will do;
 - Avoid trite expressions, such as "it goes without saying" – if it does, don't say it;
 - Avoid colloquial expressions;
 - Do not write in acronyms – always define the first instance, such as "Federal Aviation Administration" before you use FAA;
 - No nicknames – unless famous, such as "Ike" for Pres. Dwight E. Eisenhower. 🇺🇸

Associated Press Style in a Nutshell

Below are the most important rules to keep in mind when writing in AP Style

- Write the title in normal English-language capitalization. Never all in caps.
- Add your byline below the article title
- Do not format the text in the article (only exceptions are: bullet comments and numbered paragraphs in a section that details a process or sequence).
- Do not indent the first line of a paragraph.
- Use AP Style rules for punctuation.
- Single space the article. At the end of each paragraph, execute two end-of lines (Enter key).
- Do not introduce artificial paragraphing by hitting the Enter key at the end of each line in your article. Instead, let the text wrap naturally and tap two Enter keys at the end of the paragraph.
- Use only a single space after a period.
- Insert a dateline at the beginning of the article, following AP Style rules.
- Answer the 5Ws: Who, What, Where, When, Why + the honorary W: How. In writing a CAP article, you will always know the 5Ws.
- Write all dates in AP style.
- Do not use postal codes instead of state abbreviations (not OK but Okla., not NM but N.M.) but some states have no abbreviation, such as Texas.
- Write all military grades in AP Style.
- Write the article in the third person singular.
- Express no opinion.
- To express opinion, use one or more quotes of qualified sources – always get the quoted person's permission to include the quote, unless it is a matter of record (printed article or recorded audio-visual). Get the quoted person's grade, name, job title and organization.
- Never self-quote.
- Identify all persons by grade or title, name, job title if material, and organization.
- Never refer to a young person as "kid."
- When a young person is a CAP cadet, never use "boy," "girl" or "child" but identify each one by grade, full name (or last name only – never first name only), and unit of assignment.
- Never use "their" for the possessive of a singular subject, such as, "the cadet took their meal."
- Avoid the abbreviations i.e. and e.g. You may know what each one means, and the Latin words they represent, but most people confuse the two. Be clear. Write in English and leave Latin and non-English to scholars.
- Refer to CAP members by grade, name, duty position and unit of assignment. Never by first name.
- On second or subsequent references, use only the last name, except when there are two persons with the same last name, in which case the use of both first and last name is preferred (never just the first names).
- In the case of CAP or military commanders or higher ranking senior members, on second reference use the grade and last name.
- Do not use Lt. as a grade. Lt. is a mode of address. The correct grade may be 2nd Lt. or 1st Lt., but never Lt. The Navy is the only service that has the grade of Lt.
- Do not use exclamation marks, as doing so expresses opinion.
- Use simple declarative sentences.
- Avoid the passive voice.
- Remember the good rules of English grammar and syntax, and follow them.
- **For best results**, buy the latest copy of the Associated Press Stylebook, available at a modest cost at www.ap.org – read it, study it, know it, and use it. 📖